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ENG 1002G-009: Composition and Literature

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10026-009

Eastern Illinois University

Spring 2009

English 1002G, Section .009 – Composition and Literature
9:30—10:45 a.m., TR
Coleman Hall ETIC 3140 (classroom) and 3210 (lab)

Instructor: Debra Valentino
Office: CH 3836

Campus Phone: 581-6987
E-mail: davalentino@eiu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday
11:00—12:15 p.m.,
1:45—3:00 p.m.
and by appointment

Texts:

Fiction 100, James H. Pickering, 11th ed.
An Introduction to Poetry, X. J. Kennedy, 12th ed.
The Compact Bedford Intro to Drama, Lee Jacobus, 5th ed.
Writing Essays About Literature, Kelley Griffith, 7th ed.
The Blair Handbook, Fulwiler and Hayakawa, 4th ed.

Course Objectives: ENG 1002G is a writing-centered course designed to improve skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts. Our central focus will include the genres of short fiction, drama, and poetry. Students will also advance their critical thinking and documentation skills by writing a research paper. Our objective throughout the course will be to improve your writing skills.

Class Participation: Since this is a course that depends heavily on student participation, students will be expected to contribute relevant and insightful questions and comments to class discussions. Class participation also includes other areas as noted below (*). Overall student performance in this category will be factored into one's final grade by being awarded a point value (see "Grade Distribution" below).

Class Conduct: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times. Toward that end, students should remove electronic listening devices, and silence their cell phones before entering. No text messaging will be permitted. To limit distractions, please do not leave the classroom or ask permission to leave unless it is an emergency. Any disruptive behavior or flagrant violation of these policies will result in an automatic zero (0) assigned to the overall area of Class Participation (*).

Homework: You will have a reading assignment for nearly all class periods. Typically, each reading should be completed by the start of the following class period. In addition, you will be given several writing assignments (to be completed both inside and outside of class). Our goal will be to spend a minimum of five (5) hours working outside of class per week, as established by the Department of English.

Quizzes and Exercises: Several reading quizzes will be given throughout the semester to encourage students to stay current with the reading, and to reward comprehension of the assigned texts. Quizzes will be frequent, but generally unannounced. Though some students may be exempt due to excused absences, no make-ups for in-class quizzes will be granted.

Written Assignments: Follow directions given in class and on accompanying assignment sheets. Students have a responsibility to ask questions and to communicate with the instructor any difficulty or delay they may have in completing any assignment. **Assignment submission presumes that you understand the objectives, and that your work represents your best effort.**

* **Note:** You are required to keep all coursework (especially essays and drafts), and to bring all work with you to student conferences. In addition, be sure to bring all drafts on current essays to all class meetings (including both electronic and hard copies). Failure to do so may result in a deduction of Class Participation points.

Due Dates: All out-of-class essays will be due at the beginning of the class period on the date specified. In-class essays will be due at the end of the class period, unless otherwise announced.

Late Work: Essays are expected to be completed in a timely fashion and turned in on the due date. If no extension has been granted, late papers will be marked down ten (10) points for each missed class period.

Note: All final drafts must be submitted to complete this course. Failure to submit any essay will result in a grade of N/C (No Credit) for the course.

Attendance: Regular attendance is expected. An excused absence generally occurs only when the student has a documented illness. Other examples of excused absence include participation in official University activities, such as athletics. Events such as funerals (beyond immediate family), vacations, weddings, and other appointments are generally considered to be *unexcused*.

Note: Students with more than three (3) unexcused absences will have their course grade lowered one letter grade.

Absences/Missed Work: Students who anticipate an absence in advance should notify the instructor in person or by phone. Students who are ill should telephone the instructor on the day of the absence. Report Health Service visits and provide documentation upon your return to class.

Note: When an absence does occur, it is the absent student's responsibility to get all class information (including schedule/assignment modifications) from another class member.

Students should use the class phone list to consult classmates regarding missed material and assignments. Once informed, students may then e-mail, visit, or telephone the instructor with relevant and specific questions. This policy is made to underscore your responsibility for course management, not to discourage contact with your instructor. Failure to comply with this policy may result in lowered Class Participation points (*).

Extended Illness/Absence: Any student needing a prolonged absence for any reason should inform the instructor immediately. Do not wait until the end of the semester to express concern over attendance problems, since then it will be too late to compensate for missed work.

Note Also: E-mail is not always a reliable source of communication. When it comes to attendance, use e-mail only as a *supplemental* means of communication. Do not assume that all reported absences are excused.

Make-up Work: Missed exercises due to absence are due upon the student's return to class. Missed essays due to an excused absence may be made up within two weeks of the student's return to class, but only with instructor permission. *If the absence is unexcused (no note, no phone call, or without approval) make-ups are not allowed.* Make-up privileges will be granted only to those with verified absences.

Grades: All essay grades will be evaluated using the "Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU's English Department" (attached) and averaged using the following scale:

91—100	A
81—90	B
70—80	C
60—69	D
below 59	F

Note: If a student fails to follow instructions, or writes an essay in the wrong mode (e.g., expressive vs. expository, as defined in class), an "N/C" (No Credit) may be given for the paper. Note also, that no "Ds" or "Fs" will be given for the final course grade. Students averaging points below 70% will receive a grade of N/C as defined by the core curriculum standards of the Department.

Grade Distribution – Grades will be added and averaged, with assignments counting for the following values:

Essay I	50
Essay II	100
Research Essay III	200
Writing Exercises	10—100 pts.
Reading Quizzes	10—100 pts.
Mid-term Exam	100
Final Exam	100
Class Participation	100

Plagiarism: Students must familiarize themselves with the English Department's statement on plagiarism. If the student has clearly plagiarized, the instructor reserves the right to award the essay in question a grade of N/C. According to the standards set by the Eastern Illinois University Department of English, the policy for plagiarism is as follows: "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original' (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Student Standards Office (formerly *Judicial Affairs*). Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources."

~ DO NOT JEOPARDIZE YOUR GRADE WITH AN ACT OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY ~
IF YOU ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY INTEGRATING YOUR RESEARCH, SET UP A CONFERENCE.

Conferences: Feel free to see me throughout the semester whenever questions or concerns arise. One student-scheduled conference per semester is mandatory, particularly when one misses the instructor-scheduled conference. Failure to attend a scheduled conference without notification will result in a deduction of ten (10) pts. from your Class Participation score.*

Electronic Writing Portfolios (EWP): The deadline for EWP submissions to this instructor is Thursday, April 16, 2009. Please follow the instructions for submission given on the EWP website:

<http://www.eiu.edu/~assess/>

Writing Center: The writing center is at the end of the northeast corridor on the third floor of Coleman Hall in Room 3110. Students of English 1002G are encouraged to take their writing concerns to this center at any time throughout the semester. This is not a proofreading or editing service, but rather, a place where confusion and uncertainty about composition can be remedied. Also, if you are having particular problems with grammar and the mechanics of writing, this is the place (other than your handbook) to turn to for help.

Hours for Spring 2009 are: Monday—Thursday, 9 a.m.—3 p.m., and 6 – 9 p.m.
and Friday, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

In addition, you may receive free tutorial help by calling **581-5929**.

The writing center web address is:

<http://www.eiu.edu/~writing/>

Students with Disabilities: Any student who has a documented disability and wishes to receive academic accommodations should contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (**581-6583**) as soon as possible.

The Final Exam for this Course is scheduled for
Monday, May 4, 2009,
8:00–10:00 a.m.